



USS LST-793

Builder: Dravo Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Commissioned: 5 October 1944

Decommissioned: 29 April 1946

Disposition: Sold for commercial operations on 16 December 1947 to the Tex-O-Kan Flour Mills Co., Dallas, Texas.

Length: 327' 9" oa

Beam: 50'

Draft: 1' 6" bow, 7' 5" stern (unloaded); 8' 2" bow, 14' 1" stern (loaded -- at sea); 3' 1" bow, 9' 6" (loaded -- beaching)

Displacement: 1,625 (light); 4,080 (w/ full load of 2,100 tons)

Propulsion: 2 x General Motors 12-567 diesels, twin shafts/rudders

Range: 24,000 nm @ 9 knots

Top Speed: 11.6 knots

Complement: 111

Troops: 163

Initial Armament: 7 x 40mm (single mount); 6 x 20 mm (single mount); 2 x .50-caliber mgs; 4 x .30-caliber mgs

Commanding Officers:

LT G. A. Miller: 9 August 1944 - 6 February 1946

LT R. R. Emeric, USCGR: 6 February 1946 - 29 April 1946

History:

USS *LST-793*

LST Flotilla 29, Group 86, Division 172

The Coast Guard-manned USS *LST-793* was built by the Dravo Corporation, Neville Island, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was ferried down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans where she was commissioned on 5 October 1944. Her first commanding officer was LT G. A. Miller, USCG, who was relieved by Lt. R. R. Emric, USCGR on 6 February 1946. After shakedown exercises in St. Andrews Bay, Florida, and post-shakedown repairs at New Orleans, she took on board *LCT-1275* aid crew and departed for Gulfport, Mississippi for loading. Here she received a tank load of barreled asphalt and U. S. Army trucks and departed for Pearl Harbor on 13 November 1944.

The 793 arrived at Pearl Harbor on 13 December 1944, via the Canal Zone, where she remained until 27 January 1945, unloading tank cargo and being guaranteed two week availability at the Navy Yard. She then took on two pontoon causeways, two LCMs, 4 LCVPs, and 17 LVTs of the 715th Amtrack Tractor Battalion AUS, plus 79 operating personnel. Also 58 officers and men of the 58th AA Gun Battery AUS and departed Pearl Harbor on 27 January 1945, for Leyte where she arrived via Eniwetok, Ulithi and Kossol Roads on 25 February 1945. She remained at San Pedro Bay, Philippine Islands until 13 March 1945, where all LVTs and personnel of the 93rd AA Gun Battery were disembarked. Logistics were carried out and she beached and took aboard 208 men of the 77th Infantry, 305th Battalion AUS, also 17 LVTs of the 715th Amphibian Tractor Battalion plus operating personnel and departed for the Okinawa (Ie Shima) invasion on 19 March 1945.

She arrived at Ie Shima on 26 March 1945, and launched LVTs without difficulty, as well as picking them up again. The *LCT-1275* was launched during this period without difficulty. One LSM rammed the 792's stern while anchored off Point Solo causing damage to No. 6 40-mm and gun tub also carrying away stern anchor billboard necessitating jury rig to house same during rest of the operations. Departing the area for Ulithi on 27 April 1945, she arrived 5 May 1945 for logistics and repairs until May 30th. On that date she departed for Leyte arriving 14 June 1945. Here further repairs were completed and from 1 July 1945 to 1 September 1945, she was engaged in carrying aviation units to the Okinawa area from Luzon, Philippine Islands, some typhoon winds being encountered toward the end of the period.

She returned to Leyte on 26 August 1945, and proceeded to Batangas, Luzon, Philippine Islands, where she loaded troops and equipment for Tokyo arriving there on 16 September 1945, encountering two typhoons en route during which the vessel took a slight beating. She returned to Manila on September 28th, and loaded more troops and equipment reaching Yokohama on 19 October 1945, via

Manila and Subic Bay and departed on October 27th, returning to Saipan on November 3rd. Departing Saipan on November 11th, she loaded 210 U.S. Navy personnel and reached Pearl Harbor on November 26th, where she discharged personnel.

She arrived New Orleans, via San Diego on 15 January 1946 and Orange, Texas on January 21st. She arrived at Lake Charles, Louisiana on 3 April 1946, and was decommissioned there on 29 April 1946.

The *LST-793* earned two battle stars for her service during World War II.



No caption/date/photo number; photographer unknown.

Sources:

LST files, Coast Guard Historian's Office.

United States Coast Guard. *The Coast Guard At War. V. Transports and Escorts. Vol. 2.* Washington: Public Information Division, Historical Section, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, May 1, 1949, pp. 66-116.

United States Navy. *Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships.* Volume VII. Washington: Naval Historical Center, 1981, pp. 574-742.

